

## Shot At Roosevelt

New York, Sept. 8.—As President Roosevelt, on his way back to his Oyster Bay home last Saturday evening after his daily gallop, a revolver shot sounded from a clump of bushes nearby at the side of the road. The bullet whistled over his head. The President and an elderly gentleman with whom he was riding, wheeled their horses, and peered into the bushes, but saw no one. They could not tell whether the occurrence was a mere accident or whether the shot was aimed at Roosevelt.

New York, Sept. 8.—This afternoon a detective arrested a man carrying an empty revolver and a dirk. He seemed to be an ordinary creak, and described himself as "St. Patrick." This prisoner was arraigned before Justice Franklin, charged with carrying firearms and lodged in jail.

## Correspondence

To the Editor of the Strathcona Chronicle:

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me space in your paper to make a few remarks in regard to the sudden change of route for the electric road, as announced in the Bulletin of Saturday last. In the announcement it was said that the university site and a few other guiding lights were working to have the road turn north at the corner of Fourth street and continue to Fourth avenue north. I do not know who is the originator of this grand idea, but I must be shown that it originated in the University Senate before I believe it, for there is no man except through selfish personal interest who would name Fourth St. as the turning point. There was never one single objection to the plan at first agreed upon, to lay the line on Whyte avenue to the University grounds, as this was the only feasible way to accommodate the greatest number of people. Why, therefore, this sudden change, purporting to have come from such an important body of men? One glance at the map of Strathcona will be sufficient to convince anyone that this new scheme is for a one-man interest, a clique at most, and to the detriment of Strathcona and the usefulness of its street cars. Why did they not make it more complete and bring it to Mr. Walter's ferry? Then we could all sleep in peace and dream of what a beautiful system we have. I trust that our city council, or, at least, enough of them, are men who can find dream of Whyte avenue in its full length and breadth, with a bigger and broader Strathcona, having many Whyte avenue cut off at Fourth street. Edmonton will have their line go to Twenty-first street on Jasper avenue, but the originators of this new plan stop at selfish interest are willing to stop at Fourth street. Almost anything can be done and not noticed till too late when the right strings are pulled.

Yours for the benefit of a street car line for the benefit of all Strathcona.

CITIZEN.

## Honors For Canadians

London, Sept. 8.—A detachment of the 48th Highlanders, Toronto, marched to Buckingham palace today accompanied by General Smith Dorn, Col. Gordon, of the Gordon Highlanders, who is also honorary colonel of the Forty-Eighth King's Own, and a detachment of the 48th that it would tend to more tightly bind the mother country and the colonies. He expressed pleasure to learn that Col. Robertson, of the 48th, that his men should have an opportunity of witnessing the manoeuvres and mentioning how pleased the Prince of Wales was with the Tercentenary and his reception, and added that he was himself greatly pleased with its success. The Majesty then handing Colonel Robertson a Moroccan containing the Victorian Order of the fourth class simply expressed pleasure in making the presentation, and with the same words received Brigadier Larry Buchanan (Canadian) with a third-class Victorian Order simple. The officers were then introduced by Smith Dorn. Speaking to Robertson, the king said that if the comrades of the 48th were as fine and soldierly looking as the detachment they must be a magnificent body of men. The presentations were wholly unexpected.

## Socialism Rampant In Glasgow

Glasgow, Sept. 7.—Five thousand idle men yesterday tried to mob the carriage of Prince Arthur, of Connaught as it moved along in a procession incident to the reception of the royal visitor. Malcontents were driven back by the police and the prince's military escort, and several people were injured. In a downpour of rain they hooted and jeered the participants in the parade, singing "Marsellaise" and other revolutionary songs throughout three hours of the review and luncheon given to the royal guest. Socialists among the unemployed seized upon their opportunity to air their revolutionary principles by shouting, "Down with all Royalty," the Prince kept his head and remained unconcerned throughout. When the troops had played "God Save the King," not a single hand in the crowd was uncovered. On the contrary the mob broke out with refrain "Keep the red flag flying." The elaborate features of the fête were what angered the working men and led them to engage so violent in character. Owing to business and industrial depression many are on the verge of starvation. For the last two days Glasgow has been threatened with a recurrence of the bread riots, following the attempt made by a large number of unemployed to force a demand before the municipal council to hearing that the city do something for the needy. Ten thousand members of the boys' brigade took part in the pageant and it was in the early part of the ceremonies that the demonstrators made their ugly rushes in the direction of Prince Arthur's conveyance.

## The Burning Of Chisholm

Duluth, Minn., Sept. 7.—After destroying the town of Chisholm on the Mesaba range, and burning over thousands of acres in St. Louis and Calumet and Hascia counties, in Minnesota, and in Douglas county, Wis., the many forest fires which have been raging in these regions are checked today. If the wind does not spring up again it is not likely that further damage will result. A strong wind which had driven the flames before it in many timbered and agricultural townships subsided this morning, and thousands of people took stock of their belongings and prepared to rebuild burned farm houses and settlements.

The subsidence of the wind enabled the inhabitants of Duluth and Chisholm to save their town. Several buildings at the edge of Chisholm were burned, but the citizens prevented the flames from sweeping over the village. Chisholm was one of the most flourishing towns on the great Mesaba range. The damage done by the fire, however, presents a scene of ruin and desolation estimated at \$1,000,000, and to personal property \$500,000. The insurance carried by Chisholm merchants was about \$200,000.

Hibbing, five miles west of Chisholm, afforded accommodations to about 7,000 refugees from Chisholm last night, and it is expected that 3,500 will have places to sleep tonight.

There are many destitute persons especially among the miners. Many men are without funds to buy a meal today. In most instances these necessities are only temporary, for many will soon receive their insurance money. However, some merchants lost everything except the clothes they had on their backs and there will be much suffering and financial embarrassment.

Duluth, Minn., Sept. 8.—The fire which devastated Chisholm, Minn., is thought to be practically a thing of the past. All of the reported outbreaks of the ranges are reported out of danger, after trying fights with the flames. Woodmen and cruisers are ranging in from the woods around Hibbing, and say that the fire is racing in the district between Hibbing and Sturgeon Lake, twenty miles north, and have expressed fears for some of the towns and possibly Hibbing, should a strong wind from the north spring up. The weather bureau, however, forecasts that tonight's wind is due, which should carry the biggest part of the fire away from the town. No rain is predicted, however. Hibbing is housing nearly 2,000 of the refugees.

Chisholm people, headed by Judge Edward Freeman, are taking charge of the relief work themselves. Ten thousand dollars has been raised in Duluth to aid the sufferers, and a trainload of supplies, including a supply of tents, blankets and provisions for the refugees has been sent from Duluth. J. W. Kreitzer, superintendent for the Duluth, Minnesota, and Northerly railway has telephoned that all sufferers are being well cared for at present. Mrs. J. W. Ockerstrom, a Chisholm woman, who has been in poor health for some time, dropped dead from heart failure, probably induced from excitement, soon after the fire. She was the only woman of the fire so far as is known at present. A number of home steads are located in the Sturgeon Lake area, where the fire is reported, but while the dealers have been burned out, it is believed they would have an opportunity to escape. As far as can be learned at present, about 1,000 are allowed to go home.

(Continued from page 1.)

## Borden's Honesty

Bridgewater, N. S., Sept. 7.—The electors of Lunenburg County to the number of 1,500 gathered here today to hear Hon. R. L. Borden deliver his first speech in his tour throughout the Maritime Provinces. He was given a good reception. Only brief reference was made to the Colchester election case, Mr. Borden declaring with emphasis which left no doubt that he would denounce political corruption no matter by whom practiced. "I prefer defeat after an honest election rather than victory by dishonesty," he concluded amid cheers.

Mr. Borden occupied himself chiefly with a discussion of liberal administration of the past year, accusing the ministers of falsehood towards the people who had elected them, of extravagance and wasteful expenditure in all branches of their government and of shamful trucking to party before. He appealed strongly for purity in elections and for honesty in administration.

## Strike Breakers Attacked In Winnipeg

Winnipeg, Man., Sept. 7.—As strike-breakers were leaving the depot after work on Saturday they were attacked by a number of strike sympathizers and a free fight followed until the police arrived in sufficient force to drive them off. Later two strike-breakers leaving the C.P.R. by climbing the fence were set upon and badly mauled before they made their escape. Later in the evening, a number of strikers entered the yards and were walking about with lanterns when they were surprised by a C.P.R. constable charged to recognize one striker, whereupon all were rounded up and driven out, though without violence.

Winnipeg, Sept. 7.—The railway strike, which began on March 21, 1906, after the action of the nine workers is hard to forecast. The unions shall feel liberty in future to take whatever steps they may deem necessary to protect their interests in the same manner as they did previous to the passing of the Dominion act.

NO SCHOOL LANDS SOLD THIS YEAR.

Calgary, Sept. 8.—F. C. Potts, of Brandon, Man., inspector of school lands, and F. S. Cheekley, chief clerk in the school lands branch of the department of the Interior, at Ottawa, arrived in Calgary yesterday afternoon.

A conversation Mr. Cheekley said that they were merely on a tour of inspection for the department, and to find out the conditions in the west. They have decided that conditions are not so good as at present for the sale of school lands, and there will be no sales this year.

The claim has always been that when a sufficient number of applications are received from any district, an auction sale is announced. An upset price, fixed by the inspector, is placed on the land, and if it is bid up to that price it is sold. The last auction sale of school lands was held at Calgary in the fall of 1907.

The proceeds of the sale of school lands is handed to the Receiver-General, to be invested in Dominion securities, the interest of which is paid to the provincial governments for educational purposes. The Department of the Interior is mostly administrators of the land in trust.

This is Mr. Cheekley's first visit to the west, and he is highly pleased with what he has seen of the country. Calgary, he said, is a very modern city and he had no idea of seeing such a large and so well built city here on the prairie.

## Coal Appeal Abandoned

Calgary, Sept. 8.—A conference was held on Saturday afternoon between H. F. Sherman, district president of the U.M.W.A.; L. E. McKinnon, of Fernie; H. A. Mackie, of Edmonton; and L. T. D. Lathwell, of Calgary, legal adviser of the Mine Workers, for the purpose of considering the legal position of the trades unions, having in view the decisions of the courts with regard to the arrangements entered into as a result of the Lameque Act. The recent decision in the Strathcona case was the one in point, and on that was decided to abandon any further appeal proceedings.

Mr. Sherman was interviewed by the Alberta on Saturday evening, and in reply to a question as to what future action would be taken by the unions in regard to arbitration, he said that it was altogether probable that the trades unions of the west will not take any part in any further arbitrations or investigations under that act. This is due to the fact that agreements arrived at as a result of the operations of the act cannot be enforced under the existing law.

A legal opinion on the question is being prepared by the solicitors and will be published later.

The unions were always under the impression that the act gave the right of collective bargaining for conditions of labor and wages, and it was further thought that the act recognized the right of unions to make such collective agreements. They find now that the courts hold likewise and that the best legal opinion available supports that contention.

The unions now have to consider the question whether it is advisable to continue or make collective agreements having in view the fact that they cannot be enforced in the courts of this country.

All present agreements between the unions and the coal mine operators expire on March 31, 1909, after the effects of the mine workers is hard to forecast. The unions shall feel liberty in future to take whatever steps they may deem necessary to protect their interests in the same manner as they did previous to the passing of the Dominion act.

## Lunatic Hanged Himself

Winnipeg, Sept. 5.—A man named Fletcher Everett who it is said, had charge of the armory at point St. Charles, Montreal for some time, and who was on his way to Victoria, B. C., with his wife, committed suicide in Carberry jail last night.

On the arrival of No. 1 train at Brandon, Everett who is believed to have been insane, jumped from the train and had boarded No. 2 east-bound. He was taken from the train at Carberry and lodged in the police station. When the constable returned later with his supper he was horrified to find that Everett had taken his life by hanging himself with his suspenders to the bars of the cell.

From papers found on the body the man had evidently served the man of many years with the British army and had been an inspector of artillery. Mrs. Everett is at Brandon in charge of the Salvation Army.

When the news of her husband's death was conveyed to her last evening she became delirious and it is thought he will lose her reason.





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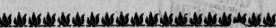
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## PART IV—THE IRRIGATION

The irrigation area can also furnish evidence of the carnival of graft existing under the present regime. Northern Alberta with its many climate and its mild winters is admirably adapted for agricultural purposes if only water is available for the land. But the industrial fence cannot under take to bring water to his crop. This is an enterprise requiring co-operation. Hence irrigation works are either constructed by the state or undertaken by corporate enterprise. South of the border the American government has developed much of the land as a national undertaking and has sold it to the farmer at cost. We have rather or inclined in this country towards the encouragement of private enterprise. The excellent irrigation law in force in Canada was passed in 1907, when Mr. Daly was Minister of the Interior. When the act was introduced that minister stated that it was to "encourage investment of capital while protecting the individual." This principle is sound—the investor is entitled to his profit, but the tiller of the soil should not be compelled to pay an exorbitant price for the land he purchases.

## STORY OF THE ROBINS IRRIGATION CONTRACT.

On the lines of Mr. Daly's maxim the Conservative opposition during the session of 1905-07, strongly condemned a transaction put through by the present government known as the Robins Irrigation contract. The circumstances were these: Guy Tracy Robins, an Englishman, visited the country in the fall of 1903. He secured from the government an irrigation contract, whereby his company should obtain 38,000 acres of land at \$1 an acre provided one-fourth thereof was put under irrigation. This tract included the Grand Forks Cattle Company leasehold, so this origin of the deal had to be brought into the deal. It was brought into the deal, it was brought into the deal. The next that was heard of this transaction was that the Southern Alberta Land Company, a London corporation, had purchased the Robins contract and the assets of the Grand Forks Cattle Company for \$1,500,000. Upon examination, we found that the Robins Irrigation Company existed of Messrs. Hitchcock & McGregor, Mr. Sifton's friends and that Guy Tracey Robins had no interest whatever.

Now, the sale to the English company at this enormous figure meant that half of the sum went for promoters' profits.

This huge amount necessarily must be repaid by the sale of land. Had this irrigation proposition been based on a business basis the capitalization of the company would have required sufficient money to buy the land from the government and so construct the irrigation works. Had such a course been pursued the land could have been sold to the settler and a handsome profit realized without selling the price beyond an average of \$6 an acre.

As it is, with the great profit of the promoters' profits, the land must be sold so as to realize \$12 the acre, as the British investor will be disappointed if the lands are not sold at a sufficiently advanced figure to cover his outlay and repay the promoters' profits.

But if the investor is to be satisfied the purchaser who eventually tills the soil, must pay double value for his irrigated land. In other words, it is the farmer who must reimburse the enormous sum of \$800,000 which Messrs. Hitchcock & McGregor have received by way of promoters' profits. The speculative aspect of this transaction might and should have been prevented. When the government several years ago granted 38,000 acres of land for irrigation purposes to the Canadian Northwest Irrigation Company they put a clause into that contract exclusive of water right, at a price not exceeding \$5 an acre, but, although the department officials recommended that such a course be followed in this case, no such clause was put into the contract with the Robins Irrigation company. There is, therefore, no limit on the price which the farmer may be charged.

It was intended by the Liberals in support of this transaction that a large sum had to be allowed for promoters' profits in order to interest the British investor in Alberta lands. The Opposition took the stand that Canadians had faith in their country, that if western land could not be rendered fit for agriculture except at an enormous sacrifice, it was time that the government of Canada made the land cultivatable and resold to the farmer at actual cost.

## WILLEY

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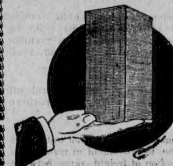
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